

 Songbirds

Phonics

# The Ox and the Yak



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### **Talk together**

Ask the child to

- Point to the letter patterns in the box on the back cover and say the sound that each letter pattern usually makes in words (e.g. *ck* as in *duck*). Tell the child the sound if necessary.
- Look out for these letter patterns in the story and try and remember the sound they make.

### **Read the story**

Remember, children learn best when reading is relaxed and enjoyable so give lots of praise.

- Encourage the child to point at the words and try to read any he/she does not recognise by saying the individual sounds of each letter pattern separately (e.g. *d – u – ck*), then running the sounds together quickly. If the child finds it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for the child first and see if he/she can hear the word.

Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check to see if it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *was*). Read these words to the child if he/she doesn't recognise them. Point out the letter patterns that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *w* in *was*). This will help the child to remember these words.

**See inside back cover for other activities.**



#### **TEACHERS**

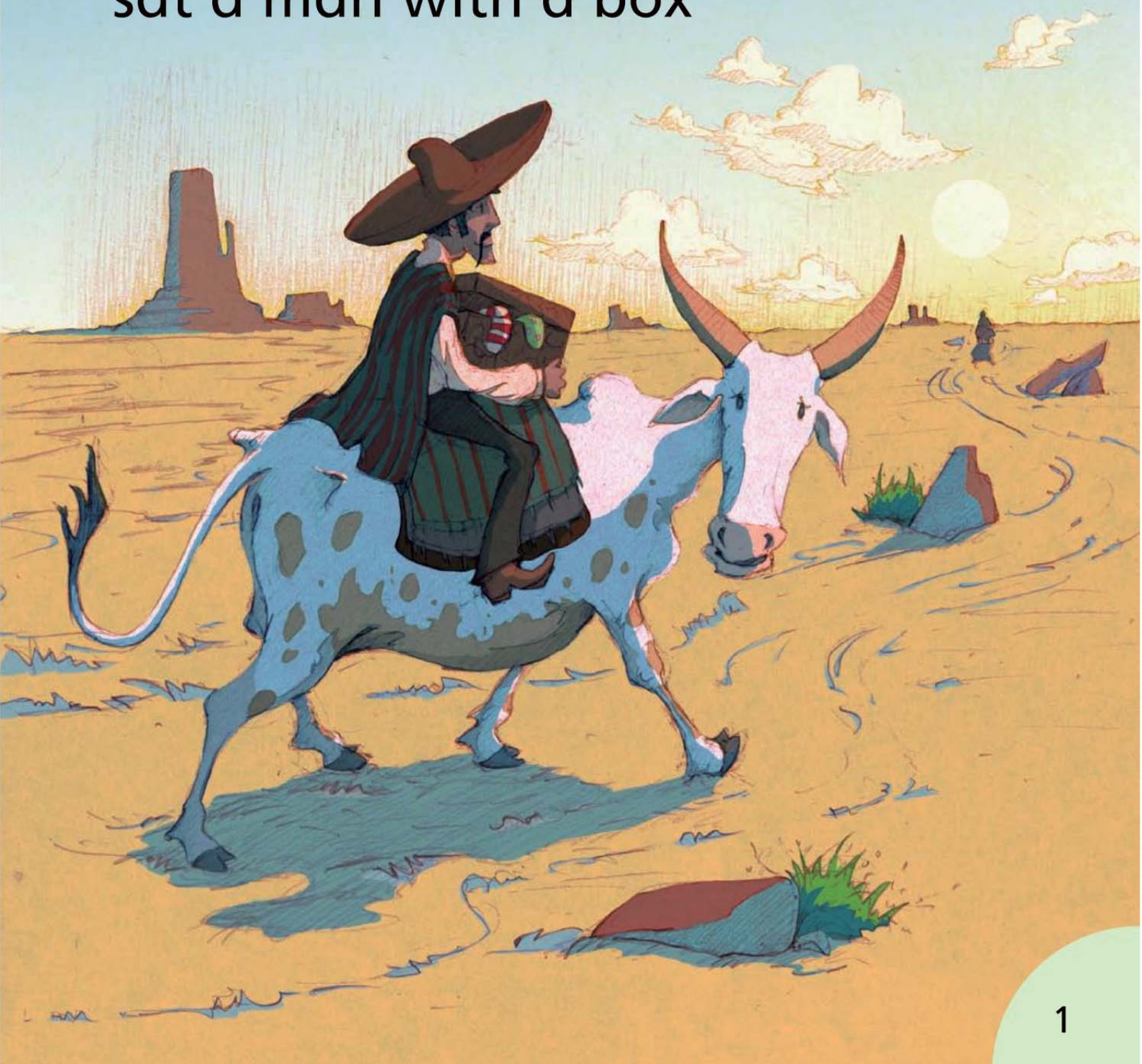
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On the back of an ox  
sat a man with a box





and in the man's box  
was a bag of odd socks.







On the back of a yak  
sat a man with a pack  
and in the man's pack  
was a duck with a quack.









The man on the ox  
met the man with the duck  
and he said, "In this box  
is a bag of good luck."







The men had a chat  
and the duck got a hat.





It was one of the socks  
from the bag in the box.





Then the man on the ox  
sang a very long song  
and the man on the yak  
hit a very big gong.









The yak did a jig  
and so did the ox  
and the duck had some fun  
with the bag of odd socks.









Then the duck said,  
"Quack quack!"  
and the two men went back









on the back of the ox  
and the back of the yak.





### **Check comprehension**

Ask the child

- What did the man say was in his box? (A bag of good luck.)
- What does the man give the duck? (An odd sock.)
- How does this make the duck feel? Why? (Happy, because he is cold and uses it as a hat.)
- Do you think the man's box contains good luck? Why?

### **Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)**

Ask the child to

- Find some words in the book which end with the letter pattern *x* (*ox*, *box*).
- Find some words on pages 14 and 15 which rhyme (*quack*, *back*).
- Try and write the word *quack*. Say all the sound in the word separately then write the letter patterns that make each sound. Look in the book to check.
- Change one letter to write the word *back*, then *sack*, then *sick*, then *lick*, then *luck*. Look in the book to check.

**Example phonic words:** Chat with this then sang long song gong back socks pack duck quack luck box ox

**Context words:** the of was he said good one very so some two





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## Stage 2 More A Songbirds Phonics



# The Ox and the Yak

Story by Julia Donaldson • Pictures by Thomas Docherty  
Series editor Clare Kirtley



**On the back of an ox  
sat a man with a box...**

### Focus Phonics

Revision of phonics from Stages 1+ and 2,  
especially:

*ch th ng ck x qu*

### Stage 2 More A Songbirds

Mr Zed  
The Ox and the Yak  
The Doll in the Bin  
Animal Quiz  
The Seven Kids  
Ron Rabbit's Egg

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